



U.S. Department of Justice

Southern District of Indiana

United States Attorney

10 West Market Street

(317) 226-6333

*Suite 2100
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3048*

TDD (317) 226-5438

FAX NUMBERS:

Criminal (317) 226-6125

Administration (317) 226-5176

Civil (317) 226-5027

FLU (317) 226-6133

OCDETF (317) 226-5953

September 10, 2003

CONTACT PERSON:

SUSAN W. BROOKS

United States Attorney

(317) 226-6333

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**INDIANAPOLIS MEN INDICTED FOR
COCAINE TRAFFICKING**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that JAMES ESPARZA, 28, and CARLOS ESPARZA, 24, Indianapolis, Indiana, were indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for possession with the intent to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine. JAMES ESPARZA is also charged with possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. The indictment follows an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Indianapolis Police Department.

-more-

JAMES and CARLOS ESPARZA were arrested on July 1, 2003 by law enforcement officers after an investigation and search of the ESPARZA residence uncovered cocaine and a handgun.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Josh J. Minkler, who is prosecuting the case for the government, JAMES ESPARZA faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 40 years and a maximum possible fine of \$4,000,000 for possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine and a maximum possible prison sentence of 5 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000 for possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. CARLOS ESPARZA faces a maximum possible prison term of life imprisonment and a maximum possible fine of \$8,000,000 for possession with intent to distribute 500 grams of cocaine. An initial hearing will be scheduled for in the near future before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Indianapolis.

The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

###